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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 35 | Min 20 | Humidity 68% Partly cloudy sky Sensex 73,828 | Nifty 22,397 | Gold 88,580 | Silver 1,01,000 | Dollar 87.00 | Euro 94.56 | GBP 112.81

Civic body not entirely prepared with wastewater management plan as Centre's deadline of March 31 approaches, while city's apartment federation has submitted suggestions for changes to draft proposal

THERE IS NO PLAN A

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The deadline to prepare an action plan to implement the Centre's Draft Liquid Waste Management Rules 2024 is approaching fast.

According to the notification issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) in August 2024, local bodies, including public wastewater management authorities in Bengaluru, should chalk out an action plan by March 31.

The plan for environmentally sound wastewater management should include collection, treatment, reuse, and utilisation. It would also include management and monitoring of faecal sludge in the area based on guidelines issued by the central Department of Drinking Water and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

Page 6
ALL DRIED UP

GRIM TALE

Nearly 1,533 new childhood cancer cases reported annually in state; lymphoid leukemia is leading type

CITY PAGE 2

THINGS TO DO

01 Feats and beats

Music director and composer Rockstar Devi Sri Prasad is all set to perform, with incredible feats such as aerial acts, drone shows, international dancers, and a performance by Budapest Scoring Orchestra. **Where: NICE Grounds, Madavara; When: Mar 15, 6.30 pm**

02 Saree festival

The National Design Centre, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, is set to host the Bengaluru Saree Festival that will bring together 75 skilled handloom weavers, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and cooperative societies from across India to showcase the rich diversity of Indian handloom sarees. **Where: Shubh Convention Centre, JP Nagar; When: March 14 to 20**

03 Artistic gala

The Indian Music Experience Museum (IME) is presenting 'A Serious Wedding', an ethnofiction film by Rajat Nayar, as part of the second edition of Women's History Month, a month-long festival throughout March 2025, dedicated to celebrating the contributions of women to the diverse landscape of Indian music. **Where: Indian Music Experience Museum, JP Nagar; When: March 15, 11 am**

04 Bandtastic evening

Windmills is presenting an electrifying two-night performance by Shake Stew, one of Europe's most exciting contemporary jazz ensembles. Known for their high-energy blend of groove jazz and Afrobeat, the Austrian septet will be bringing their signature sound to India. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: March 14 and 15**

05 Canvas carnival

Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) is organising an art exhibition called 'Joyful Great Indian Modern Women Saga' (JGIMWS) 2025, as part of the International Women's day. **Where: Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, Mallathahalli; When: March 8 to March 20, 10 am to 5 pm**

Data reveals alarming rise in child cancer cases

Latest cancer data for Karnataka indicates that lymphoid leukemia is most common type of cancer affecting children, accounting for 25.7% cases in boys and 29.6% cases in girls

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Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology organises various activities in September, designated as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, to educate children and parents about the disease

According to a population-based cancer registry estimate in Bengaluru, approximately 1,533 new childhood cancer cases are reported annually in Karnataka. Among these, around 876 cases occur in boys and 657 in girls, highlighting the concerning rise of paediatric cancer in the state.

Providing data in the recent legislature, Medical Education Minister Dr Sharanprakash Patil said that the latest cancer data for Karnataka reveals that lymphoid leukemia is the most common type of cancer in boys (25.7%), followed by brain and nervous system cancers (12.9%), myeloid leukemia (11.2%), and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (8.4%). In girls, lymphoid leukemia accounts for 29.6% of cases, followed by brain and nervous system cancers (12.1%), myeloid leukemia (9.5%), and bone cancer (5.8%).

He said that chemotherapy remains the primary treatment approach for paediatric cancer patients, with nearly 73% of cases undergoing this form of therapy. Additionally, about 12% of children receive radiation therapy, particularly for brain and nervous system cancers, while approximately 7% undergo surgery as part of their treatment. Advanced therapies, such as targeted therapy and bone marrow transplants, are also being increasingly adopted to improve survival rates.

Comprehensive paediatric cancer care

Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Karnataka's premier cancer treatment facility, has a dedicated paediatric oncology division that admits around 630 new child cancer patients annually. The institute offers comprehensive treatment, including bone marrow transplants, free of cost under various government schemes and patient welfare funds. So far, it has successfully completed 107 bone marrow transplants, including 32 for children. On average, two children receive this advanced treatment every month.

"The cost of these treatments is covered under government initiatives like the 'Rare Disease' scheme and the 'Patient Welfare Fund,' ensuring that underprivileged families receive free and quality cancer care," he said.

Initiatives for public awareness

Apart from providing medical treatment, Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology has been at the forefront of raising cancer awareness for decades. The institute conducts public awareness campaigns, including street plays, video screenings, and interactive sessions in schools, colleges, and Anganwadi centers. "Awareness programs are also conducted for Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) workers, self-help groups, and various government and non-government organizations to educate people about early cancer detection and prevention," he added.

Chemotherapy remains the primary treatment approach for paediatric cancer patients, with nearly 73% of cases undergoing this form of therapy

To further promote awareness, the institute organises special campaigns annually. On February 15, observed as International Childhood Cancer Day, cancer awareness walks, expert interactions with the public, media discussions, and workshops for healthcare workers are conducted. Additionally, September is designated as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, during which competitions like essay contests, storytelling, and mono-acting performances, are held to educate children and parents about the disease.

Hoteliers balk at milk price hike proposal

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The Karnataka State Hotels Association (KSHA) has opposed the proposed ₹5 per litre milk price hike and the revision of milk product prices.

In a letter to the state government and the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF), KSHA President GK Shetty voiced his apprehension, stating that an increase in prices will have an adverse impact on the hotel industry. "The cost of coffee powder has increased significantly. If milk price is hiked by ₹5, hotel owners will be compelled to increase the prices of various hot beverages, including tea and coffee," he said. He noted that this situation could adversely affect the hotel industry, which is already grappling with multiple challenges.

Expressing concern over the price hike, he said that it could likely affect the survival of the hotel industry, which is the livelihood of many families in the state, and a major source of tax for the state government and local bodies. He said that hotels serve quality tea, coffee, and other beverages to their customers by adhering to all hygiene and quality standards as per the food safety policy. The price hike would inevitably lead to an increase in prices of these beverages. "Then consumers may start consuming tea and coffee which are available at cheap rates, but are prepared and sold without following any safety standards. This can have a major adverse impact on public health," he warned.

He urged the government to immediately drop the proposal to increase milk prices, keeping in mind the interests of public health and the hotel industry. SP Krishnaraj of Nisarga Grand opined that hoteliers are already facing problems due to a hike in property rentals, demand for higher wages, and hike in coffee prices. "If a hotelier requires 100 litres of milk per day, he has to pay ₹500 extra if the price of milk is hiked by ₹5 per litre," Krishnaraj said.

Bangalore Hotels Association Secretary Veerendra Kamath said that the price hike of essential commodities puts a burden on hoteliers. "Any hike in milk price will have a cascading effect on milk products. There is a proposal to hike water tariff. Hoteliers will have no choice except increasing prices," he said.

HC affirms EC's sole authority

The High Court of Karnataka has determined that only the Election Commission (EC) possesses the authority to file complaints regarding false affidavits under Section 125A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, for candidates during election nominations.

Justice M Nagaprasanna issued the ruling whilst dismissing a private complaint against Manjula Limbavali, MLA for Mahadevapura constituency, and Shailendra Beldale, MLA for Bidar South constituency, regarding alleged false disclosures in their 2023 Legislative Assembly election affidavits.

The court clarified that Section 125A offences are non-cognisable, and the standard procedure for criminal law proceedings in cognisable offences does not apply here. Voters only retain the right to file election petitions for Section 125A violations, whilst the responsibility of registering criminal complaints rests with the EC.

Dr Beldale refuted claims of false residential information. Regarding allegations against her, Limbavali said that she left the dependants column empty because her children are independent, and the mentioned firm is a corporate entity, not her proprietorship. The court declined to examine the affidavit disclosures, concluding that private complaints are inadmissible under Section 125A.

— BMB

ಅದ್ವಿತೀಯ ಸಹಕಾರಿ ರಾಯಭಾರಿ

ಬಿರುದಾಂಕಿತ

ಡಾ| ಎಂ.ಎನ್. ರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಕುಮಾರ್ ಅವರಿಗೆ

ಹೃತ್ಪೂರ್ವಕ ಅಭಿನಂದನೆಗಳು

ಕಳೆದ ಮೂರು ದಶಕಗಳಿಂದ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಹಕಾರಿ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಆಡಳಿತ ಚುಕ್ಕಾಣಿ
ಹಿಡಿದು ಅದ್ವಿತೀಯ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ಐತಿಹಾಸಿಕ ಸಾಧನೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ಸಹಕಾರ ರಂಗದ ಸರದಾರರು,
ನವೋದಯ ಸ್ವಸಹಾಯ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಹರಿಕಾರರು,
ನಮ್ಮ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಹೆಮ್ಮೆಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾದ

ಸಹಕಾರ ರತ್ನ **ಡಾ.ಎಂ.ಎನ್.ರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಕುಮಾರ್** ಅವರ

76ನೇ ಜನ್ಮದಿನದ ಶುಭ ಸಡಗರದ ವೇಳೆ ಉದಯವಾಣಿ ದಿನಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯು ತನ್ನ 55 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಮುದ್ರಣ
ಇತಿಹಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಥಮ ಬಾರಿಗೆ ಹೊರತಂದ ಕಾಫಿಟೇಬಲ್ ಬುಕ್‌ನ್ನು ಅರ್ಪಿಸಿ

"ಅದ್ವಿತೀಯ ಸಹಕಾರಿ ರಾಯಭಾರಿ"

ಗೌರವ ನೀಡಿದ್ದು ಮಹತ್ವದ ಮೈಲಿಗಲ್ಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ನಿಮ್ಮ ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕ ವರ್ಚಸ್ಸಿನಿಂದಾಗಿ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಹಕಾರಿ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿಗೆ ಸಂದ ಗೌರವವಾಗಿದೆ. ಬ್ಯಾಂಕಿನ ಉತ್ಕರ್ಷ ಸಾಧನೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಾಧಕರ
ಜೀವನಗಾಥೆಗೆ ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರೇರಣೆಯಾಗುವ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಈ ಸಾಧನಾಶೀಲ ಬದುಕಿಗೆ ಹಾರ್ದಿಕ ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು

ಹಾಗೂ **ಗೌರವ ಪೂರ್ವಕ ಅಭಿನಂದನೆಗಳು.**

ವಿನಯ ಕುಮಾರ್ ಸೂರಿಂಜೆ
ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು

ಗೋಪಾಲಕೃಷ್ಣ ಭಟ್ ಕೆ.
ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಪ್ರಭಾರ)

ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರುಗಳಾದ ಸರ್ವಶ್ರೀ ಟಿ.ಜಿ. ರಾಜಾರಾಮ ಭಟ್, ಭಾಸ್ಕರ್ ಎಸ್. ಕೋಟ್ಯಾನ್, ಎಂ. ವಾದಿರಾಜ ಶೆಟ್ಟಿ
ಶಶಿಕುಮಾರ್ ರೈ ಬಿ., ದೇವಿಪ್ರಸಾದ್ ಶೆಟ್ಟಿ ಎಸ್.ಬಿ. ಜಯರಾಮ ರೈ, ಮೋನಪ್ಪ ಶೆಟ್ಟಿ ಎಕ್ಕಾರು, ಎಂ. ಮಹೇಶ್ ಹೆಗ್ಡೆ
ಬಿ.ಅಶೋಕ್ ಕುಮಾರ್ ಶೆಟ್ಟಿ, ಕೆ. ಜೈರಾಜ್ ಬಿ. ರೈ, ಕುಶಲಪ್ಪ ಗೌಡ ಪಿ., ಎಸ್.ಎನ್. ಮನ್ಮಥ, ರಾಜೇಶ್ ರಾವ್,
ಸದಾಶಿವ ಉಳ್ಳಾಲ್, ರಮೇಶ್ ಹೆಚ್.ಎನ್. (ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಉಪನಿಬಂಧಕರು, ದ.ಕ.ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಮಂಗಳೂರು) ಮತ್ತು ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ವರ್ಗ

ನವೋದಯ ಗ್ರಾಮ ವಿಕಾಸ ಚಾರಿಟೆಬಲ್ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ (ರಿ), ಮಂಗಳೂರು

ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಹಕಾರಿ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನಿ.
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ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 0824-2440381, 2440882, 2441341, 2441243

Protests after women dies due to water motor shock

A 58-year-old woman was electrocuted in the early hours of Wednesday while turning on a water motor at her home in Anandapura 1st Cross, behind Vinayaka Theatre, under Chamarajpet police station limits.

According to sources, the incident occurred around 3:30 a.m. when the victim, identified as Selvi, attempted to switch on the motor to collect drinking water. She suffered a severe electric shock upon turning on the switch and died on the spot. The Chamarajpet police have registered a case and are investigating further.

Protesters demand compensation for kin

Following the tragic incident, around 50 to 60 local residents gathered on Mysuru Road to protest, demanding compensation for the victim's family and a proper water supply system in the area. The demonstration led to temporary traffic congestion, with protestors insisting that a government representative visit the site to address their concerns. Responding to the situation, Minister Zameer Ahmed arrived at the protest site and assured them that necessary action would be taken. Following his assurance, the crowd dispersed.

The incident has also drawn attention to the ongoing issue of unauthorised water connections in the area. Since not all households have access to an official water supply, many residents have resorted to illegally tapping into Cauvery water pipelines and using motors to draw water. This practice not only poses safety risks but also raises concerns about the role of the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) in ensuring proper infrastructure. Authorities are now expected to address the issue and take corrective measures to prevent similar accidents in the future. **— BMB**

Police to keep close eye on social media

State strengthens digital surveillance to tackle misinformation, cybercrime, and online fraud

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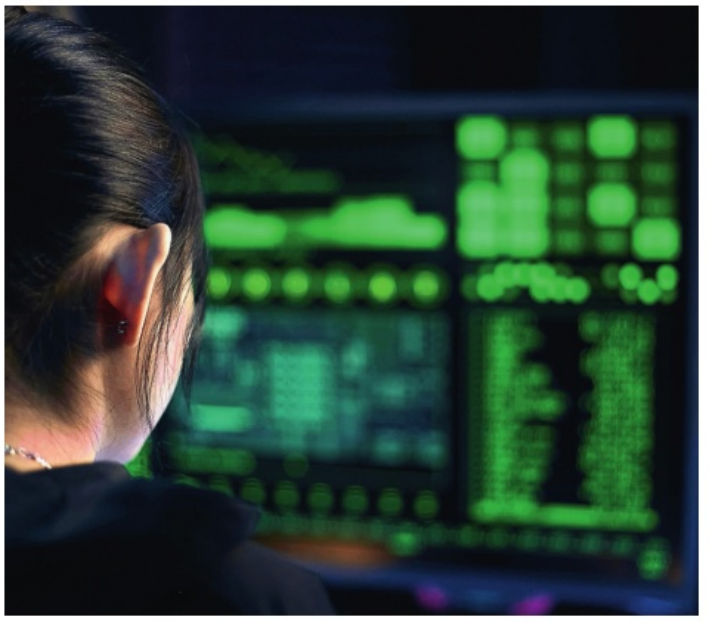
In a first for the country, the Karnataka government has established a dedicated police section in every station to monitor social media activity and curb its misuse, Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwara announced in the assembly on Thursday.

During a discussion led by BJP MLC N Ravikumar, concerns were raised over the growing influence of social media in spreading misinformation and inciting unrest. Ravikumar urged the government to allocate a special budget for social media monitoring and consider enacting a dedicated law to tackle the issue. He emphasised the need for increased powers for the police department to counter fake news effectively.

Responding to the concerns, Parameshwara stated that the state government has taken significant steps, including the launch of a fact-checking application and regular monitoring mechanisms. "We have set up a dedicated desk at every police station for social media surveillance, alongside separate desks for media, law and order, and organisational matters," he said.

The minister also highlighted the growing threat of cybercrime in Karnataka. "While cases of murder, rape, and POCSO-related crimes have declined, cybercrime is on the rise, with 22,000 cases registered this year alone. Economic offenses and drug-related crimes are also increasing, and the government is taking these issues seriously," he added.



Dedicated desk set up at each police station for social media surveillance, alongside separate desks for media, law and order

Role of digital platform in misinformation

There have been several instances where fake news circulated on social media has led to communal tensions and unrest. Misinformation spreads quickly on digital platforms, often triggering panic, hatred, and even violence before authorities can intervene. In many cases, misleading posts or doctored videos have caused people to react impulsively, resulting in clashes and law-and-order issues.

To address this growing concern, the Karnataka state government has established social media monitoring units to track and curb the spread of fake news. Officials believe that closely monitoring online activities will help prevent misinformation from escalating into serious incidents. By detecting and countering false claims in real time, these units aim to uphold peace and security.

> **"While cases of murder, rape, and POCSO crimes dipped, cybercrime is on the rise, with 22,000 cases this year**– G Parameshwara, Minister

Apart from communal tensions, digital platforms are also being misused for financial fraud, with scammers luring people through fake investment schemes, lottery scams, and phishing messages.

In response, law enforcement agencies are ramping up online surveillance to curb such crimes. With improved monitoring and swift action, authorities aim to create a safer digital space and prevent misinformation from harming society.

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Broken drain

Bannerghatta road

A broken drain near The Park Inn hotel at Koli Farm Gate is a serious threat to pedestrians and motorists. Residents urge authorities to fix it before accidents occur.

Parking chaos

Banaswadi

Haphazard parking near a eatery is causing daily traffic congestion near Banaswadi Traffic Police Station. Vehicles block the road, slowing movement. Commuters urge authorities to take action.

What exactly is the action plan?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sanitation (DDWS). The urban local body, which is Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for Bengaluru, will also sketch a grievance redressal mechanism for citizens to raise complaints. While the clock is ticking down to the deadline, Bengaluru's drawing board is empty.

When BM reached out to a senior official from the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), the wastewater management authority for Bengaluru, they appeared clueless about the Centre's draft rule and the fast-approaching deadline to sketch an action plan. "We manage Bengaluru's wastewater with the help of sewage treatment plants (STP). BWSSB already has 36 STPs to treat the city's wastewater. We have proposed nine new STPs for Bengaluru. A detailed project report of these STPs has already been submitted to the state government nearly a month ago. However, it is yet to be approved. We will not be able to put a deadline on the approval," said the official.

The draft rule, once implemented, shall apply to every urban body as well as rural local body and all public authorities and entities responsible for the generation and management of wastewater, sludge from wastewater treatment facilities and faecal sludge, including all entities within their jurisdictions whether being controlled and managed by the government, private sector or in Public Private Partnership (PPP).

Extend deadline: BAF

However, city-based residential societies and apartment complexes managing their wastewater through decentralised STPs say there are implementational challenges in the current shape and form of the Centre's proposed rules. Bangalore Apartment Federation (BAF) has submitted suggestions on the proposals contained in the draft notification.

The draft rule has specified various duties for bulk users of water, such as extended user responsibility for treatment and reuse apart from others. The bulk users, as per the draft document, other than industries, are those having water consumption of more than 5 KLD or pollution load of more than 10 kg per day in terms of BOD.

According to BAF, the definition of bulk user should be changed to those with consumption of more than 100 KLD. "It is not practical to define 5 KLD as bulk use. Waste water Treatment Technologies stipulated by CPCB authorities for decentralized water treatment facilities below 100 KLD are not feasible.

These facilities have high operational and lifecycle costs, which will be borne by apartments in the future. The cost of treatment will not be recovered through offset in freshwater usage, making incentives very important for the longevity of this implementation," said Satish Mallya, vice president of BAF.

The draft rule also states that in case the bulk user is not able to set up decentralised wastewater treatment facility of requisite capacity and appropriate technologies, it shall obtain exemption for corresponding quantity of wastewater from appropriate local body or concerned authority, in order to fulfill the Extended User Responsibility obligation by purchasing EUR certificates from registered wastewater treatment facilities.

"Only registered wastewater treatment facilities should be mandated to generate EUR certificates for treated wastewater to be procured by bulk users of water for fulfillment of EUR obligations. We recommend certificates generated by the facility in a particular year shall be valid for meeting the obligations of bulk users should be extended to subsequent financial year as well, and not the same year at present," said BAF's written submission made to MoEF&CC.

Apartment complex representatives also say that while effective liquid waste management is crucial for a safe and healthy environment and sustainable development and unscientific disposal of liquid waste can lead to pollution of various types, the deadline to implement this rule in Bengaluru should be extended to March 2030 instead of the current timeline of October 2025.

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Dry days: Groundwater table is in decline mode

Over 60% of wells monitored show decline; Central Ground Water Board places state among top five groundwater mismanaging regions in country

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The Central Ground Water Board's (CGWB) yearbook for 2023-24 shows that Karnataka has been witnessing a constant decline in its groundwater table, highlighting growing stress on the state's water resources.

A comparison of annual groundwater table fluctuations between January 2023 and January 2024 reveals that nearly 60% of the wells analysed recorded a drop in water levels. The CGWB examined 1,256 wells across the state and found that 744 of them showed a decline.

In Karnataka, groundwater levels were assessed using 1,360 wells and 930 piezometers, bringing the total number of monitoring stations in the state to 2,291

Changes tracked

The report, published annually, tracks changes in the groundwater regime across all states and different seasons. Karnataka's continued decline in groundwater levels has placed it among the top five states struggling with groundwater management.

According to the report, groundwater levels in Karnataka have been consistently falling. A comparison of January 2024 water levels with the average fluctuations over the past decade shows that 70% of the monitored wells recorded a decline. Out of 1,230 wells, 864 showed a drop in water levels, while only 366 registered an improvement.

A similar trend was observed during the pre-monsoon season. Between pre-monsoon 2022 and pre-monsoon 2023, groundwater levels in 85% of the analysed wells declined. Out of 1,212 wells assessed, 1,031 showed a drop, while only 180 recorded an increase.

The CGWB gathers groundwater level data through a network of representative monitoring wells. In Karnataka, groundwater levels were assessed using 1,360 wells and 930 piezometers, bringing the total number of monitoring stations in the state to 2,291.

National level

On a national level, a decadal comparison of groundwater levels across India shows slight fluctuations in most areas but significant regional variations. While states like Gujarat, Delhi, and Tamil Nadu saw minor increases in water levels in about half of the monitored wells, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Punjab recorded consistent declines, indicating water stress in these regions.

Comparison of annual groundwater table fluctuations between Jan 2023 and 2024 reveals that nearly 60% of the wells analysed recorded a drop in water levels

Shallow ranges

Most changes in groundwater levels occurred within a shallow range of 0-2 meters, suggesting gradual shifts rather than drastic depletion.

However, certain regions continue to face significant groundwater loss.

"The trend identified in the report underlines the need for targeted groundwater management efforts in regions showing persistent declines," the CGWB noted.

PRR tunnel roads get green light

As the Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) remains a non-starter even after decades, the Karnataka government is now seeking financial support from HUDCO to revive the project. Responding to a question in the Legislative Council by MLC Sudham Das on traffic congestion, officials acknowledged that Bengaluru's unplanned growth has exacerbated its traffic woes.

"Bengaluru is not a planned city like New Delhi. Only areas like Jayanagar, Indiranagar, and Malleswaram were developed in an organised manner. The PRR would have significantly eased traffic, but it was never executed," he said. The cost of the PRR, which was initially estimated at Rs 3,000-4,000 crore, has now surged to Rs 26,000 crore. To fund the project, the state government is seeking a loan from HUDCO. Officials also lamented past missed opportunities, such as the cancellation of a proposed steel bridge on Bellary Road during KJ George's tenure as Bengaluru Development Minister, which could have helped manage traffic more effectively.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, who also holds the Bengaluru Development portfolio, outlined a series of measures to tackle the city's traffic issues. He announced plans for two tunnel roads—one spanning 17 km from east to west and another covering 23 km from north to south. Tenders for the first phase will be invited soon.

Additionally, double-decker flyovers will be constructed along new metro corridors, with the BBMP and BMRCL sharing the cost equally. Each kilometre of these flyovers is estimated to cost Rs 120 crore, and the government has allocated Rs 9,000 crore for the project. Other initiatives include developing 300 km of buffer roads along storm water drains, widening existing roads using Transferable Development Rights (TDRs), and constructing new roads. A 7.8-km road from Hebbal to Hennur has already been notified. In total, 320 km of new roads are being developed across Bengaluru.

The government has also earmarked Rs 9,000 crore for white-topping 1,682 km of roads. — BMB

Government, university told to pay retired teacher's pension

The Karnataka High Court has intervened to assist a retired school teacher who has been seeking his pension for six years. The court has directed the State Government and Rani Channamma University to disburse his complete Death-cum-Retirement benefits, privilege leave encashment, and pension arrears within four weeks. Justice M Nagaprasanna, while allowing MA Dhavaleshwar's petition, expressed concern over the prolonged delay. "It is incomprehensible why the petitioner, despite serving for 34 years, has not been paid his full pension, leave encashment, and gratuity. The State seems to be playing with the petitioner's life," he remarked.

Dhavaleshwar began his service on July 26, 1982, as a professor at Sangolli Rayanna College, an aided institution receiving state grants. After 30 years, the college was incorporated into the newly established Rani Channamma University in Belagavi. As a result, Dhavaleshwar became a University employee and retired on August 31, 2015, upon reaching the age of superannuation—yet his terminal benefits remained unpaid. Despite years of correspondence between the University and Government, authorities eventually directed the University to settle his dues from its own funds.

The petitioner argued that his pension for 33 years of service was denied merely because he served as a University professor for his final three years. He claimed that only minimal payments were made to comply with contempt proceedings, leaving significant dues unsettled. The government, however, maintained that he was only entitled to a pro-rata pension due to his split service between an aided institution and the University.

The court took a strong stance, noting that the petitioner had been deprived of his rightful pension for nearly five years while his file was shuffled between departments. Dismissing objections over service jurisdiction, the bench emphasised that approximately Rs 30 lakh was due in terminal benefits. The court criticised the University's audit objections for non-payment, stating, "This cannot be an excuse to deny a teacher his rightful dues for ten years." Ordering immediate action, the court warned that failure to comply could lead to further legal action from the petitioner. — BMB

HC upholds KSLU'S exam ban on law student

The Karnataka High Court dismissed an appeal on Wednesday from a law student challenging a single judge's order that upheld Karnataka State Law University's decision to bar her from future examinations over malpractice. A division bench comprising Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice MI Arun rejected the appeal, noting that the student's admission to writing on her hall ticket during the exam was a crucial factor in the decision.

The court observed that once the student acknowledged the act, other arguments became irrelevant. The case pertained to her examination in Human Rights Law and Practice, where she was accused of malpractice. Following this, the university's malpractice consideration committee summoned her, and she admitted to the charge. As a consequence, she was barred from two upcoming exams, and her performance in the human rights paper was nullified.

During the hearing, the student's counsel argued that the committee, being a fact-finding body, lacked the authority to impose penalties. It was also contended that she was pressured into admitting to malpractice, raising concerns about procedural irregularities. The court was informed that the petitioner belonged to a most backward community, with her father working as a daily wage labourer, and she was the first in her family to pursue law.

However, the court ruled that technicalities could not override the findings in a malpractice case. It stressed that judicial review has limited scope in such matters and found no reason to overturn the single judge's ruling, ultimately dismissing the appeal as lacking merit. — BMB

Cop warns feeder, 'you'll be liable'

Despite legal backing, officer intimidates dog feeder, sparking activist demands for BBMP action

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Inset: Govindapura ASI threatening feeder in video

Activists urge action against the ASI and demand awareness to protect stray dog feeders

Despite the Supreme Court order allowing the feeding of stray dogs and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) organising an Information Education and Communication (IEC) programme on stray dogs, some police officials and residents are yet to understand the importance of feeding stray dogs. There have been cases of people, including police inspectors, intimidating dog feeders to stop feeding dogs.

A video of an Assistant Sub-Inspector from Govindapura Police Station threatening a dog feeder has gone viral. In the video, the ASI tells the dog feeder that she will be held responsible if the dog that is fed by her bites anyone in the locality. The ASI was seen as adamant despite the dog feeder pleading to know how she would be responsible if the dog bites a person. The ASI is seen telling her that her family members will be safe by feeding the stray dog but she will be responsible if the dog bites others in the area.

Animal activists are up in arms against the ASI and want the authorities concerned to create awareness among the residents and police of the respective area to ensure stray dogs are fed without any hassles.

Tanya Bhat, an animal activist from Cooke Town, said, "If people throw stones and wave sticks, obviously the dogs will retaliate. If we learn to treat them lovingly or just ignore them, not harm them, we can coexist peacefully. Senior police officers need to take up this matter, it is the police's job to execute the existing laws, not make their own rules," Tanya Bhat said.

Sujaya Jagadish, a member of SPCA, said the BBMP's lack of swift action to educate police personnel on protecting dog feeders is alarming and has led to serious harassment of dog feeders. "Despite spending considerable amounts on awareness campaigns, the BBMP's inaction has resulted in police bias against dog feeders, leaving them vulnerable to harassment and intimidation. In some cases, the police have even filed counter-charges against well-meaning feeders who are simply fulfilling their constitutional duty to care for animals. This negligence by the BBMP and the police has compromised animal welfare and perpetuated suffering for street dogs, which are often denied food," Jagadish said.

Arun Prasad, an animal activist, stated that feeding street dogs is legal under Rule 20(1) of the ABC Rules, 2023. He added that public feeding of animals aligns with Article 51A(g) of the Constitution of India and has been upheld by the Supreme Court.

"If street dogs bite then the compensation is given by the local authority and an affidavit in this regard is already submitted to the Karnataka High Court by the Urban Development Department and it is shocking to know that the police department is still unaware that cases cannot be filed against the public," he said.

Meanwhile, BBMP Special Commissioner (Health and Animal Husbandry) Suralkar Vikas Kihore said, "The BBMP has also conducted sessions with the police department about animal laws. Everyone must understand that IEC is a long process and it takes time for things to reach a larger audience. If someone in the system is not responding as per law then the authority who is above that particular designation can be approached for redressing the complaint."

IN BRIEF

Gang attacks guest worker

A 30-year-old migrant from West Bengal was kidnapped and assaulted by six unidentified individuals near Murugeshpalya signal on Wednesday night.

According to the complaint, the victim was passing through Shobha Apartment in Kundanhalli on his two-wheeler around 10:30 pm when the assailants stopped him, brandishing knives and guns. They allegedly blindfolded him and forced him to accompany them to the SMVT railway station, where they demanded money. When he refused, they physically assaulted him. After some time, he managed to escape and later filed a complaint at the HAL police station. Police have registered a case and launched an investigation.

In a similar case last month, a West Bengal migrant was found dead near the Kodigehalli railway track. —BMB

Greater B'luru, coming soon

The Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill 2024 was passed in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday, with minor amendments. Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Bengaluru Development, DK Shivakumar, introduced the revised bill in the Assembly, stating that a few modifications were made based on discussions in both Houses and the need for reconsideration. "During the debate on this bill, MLA Ashwath Narayan raised concerns regarding industries. I have discussed this matter with the Minister for Industries, and we have now included a provision stating that the Master Plan must be prepared based on prior approval from the Project Authority," he explained.

Additionally, a lottery system will be used to select seven nominated members based on ward numbers. The amendments were subsequently approved by the House. —BMB

Advertorial Promotional Feature

BM Food & Night Life

Eat well, stay healthy too

A commitment to health and well-being often begins with small, sustainable habits. The key to lasting success lies in adopting practices that are both nourishing and enjoyable. Let's explore some simple yet impactful ways to thrive.

Hydration
Drinking an adequate amount of water is essential for overall well-being. Consider carrying a reusable water bottle and setting regular reminders to ensure you stay consistently hydrated.

Embrace whole foods
Incorporate a variety of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins into your meals. These nutrient-dense foods provide essential vitamins and minerals.

Mindful eating
Pay attention to flavours, textures, and the act of eating itself. This practice not only enhances your enjoyment of food but also helps you recognise and respond to your body's hunger and fullness cues.

Balanced meals
Create plans for balanced meals that include a mix of carbohydrates, proteins, and healthy fats. Planning your meals can prevent impulsive and less nutritious choices.

Move regularly
Physical activity is a vital component of a healthy lifestyle. Find activities you enjoy, whether it's walking, dancing, or practising yoga, and incorporate them into your routine.

Prioritise sleep
The value of quality sleep is often underestimated, but sleep plays a crucial role in overall health. Establish a consistent sleep routine, and aim for seven to nine hours of sleep each night.

Limit added sugars
Opt for natural sweetness from fruits when you have a sweet craving. Reducing added sugars supports overall health.

Set realistic goals
Fuel your resolutions with realistic and achievable goals. Break down larger objectives into smaller, manageable steps. Celebrate your progress along the way, fostering a sense of accomplishment.

— Dietitian Vidhi Chawla for Femina

Top honours for outstanding food brands, hotels, restaurants, and pubs across diverse categories. Industry leaders discuss emerging challenges and the future of hospitality

Food & Nightlife Awards Celebrate Excellence in Hospitality

For the first time, Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror presented the prestigious VK & BM Food & Nightlife Awards, celebrating excellence in the hospitality industry. The event recognised outstanding achievements across categories such as South Indian, North Indian, North Karnataka, Seafood, Biryani, and Best Pubs. Honouring businesses that have set new benchmarks in taste, quality, and service, the awards highlighted those redefining the culinary and nightlife experience.

Insights from Industry Experts

Renowned food blogger Kripal Amanna, who has over 31 years of experience in the hospitality sector, shared his thoughts on the industry's challenges. "Starting a restaurant is easy, but sustaining it is the real challenge. It requires dedication, hard work, and patience. Retaining customers by consistently delivering great taste is not an easy task. Just like milk quality changes due to differences in cattle feed, expecting the same taste from a restaurant over decades is unrealistic. Quality evolves, and so do consumer expectations." Well-known actress Ankita Amar emphasized the emotional connection people share with restaurants. "Restaurants are more than just places to eat; they create memories. From birthday treats to wedding celebrations, every moment spent at a restaurant becomes a cherished memory. The hospitality industry deserves recognition, and Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror's initiative to honor these unsung heroes is truly commendable."

She also highlighted how dining out has become a part of modern culture, saying, "Going to a restaurant is an experience—getting dressed up, enjoying the ambiance, and indulging in good food. Nightlife, too, has become an integral part of urban entertainment. However, those working behind the scenes in this industry often go unnoticed. Recognizing and celebrating their efforts is a step in the right direction."

Hospitality: An Everlasting Industry

The event also shed light on the resilience of the hospitality sector. "Unlike seasonal businesses, the food industry is a necessity. People will always need good food, and there will always be demand. Providing high-quality meals at an affordable price ensures customer loyalty. This industry is here to stay," noted one of the speakers. By bringing together key players in the hospitality sector, the VK & BM Food & Nightlife Awards 2024-25 not only celebrated excellence but also initiated important conversations about innovation, customer experience, and the future of dining in India.

Food blogger Kripal Amanna, actress Ankita Amar, Vijaya Karnataka Editor Sudarshan Channangihalli, and Vijaya Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror CEO Deepak Saluja were present at the inauguration of the Food & Nightlife Awards organised by Vijaya Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror.

"Bengaluru offers a taste of the world, making it a preferred place to live. The government's extension of nightlife hours has significantly benefited this sector. Your contribution to the state's economic growth is invaluable. With online delivery services, food choices have expanded more than ever."
— **Deepak Saluja, CEO, Vijay Karnataka & Bangalore Mirror**

"Bengaluru is a city of food lovers. From travelling to Bidadi for Thatte Idli to Hoskote for Biryani, our passion for food is unmatched. This industry has always been close to people's hearts. For the first time, we are recognising and honouring hospitality experts. The government must also focus more on the hotel industry."
— **Sudarshan Channangihalli, Editor, Vijay Karnataka**

"Despite the presence of hundreds of Andhra-style hotels in Bengaluru, receiving this award is truly an honor. This recognition belongs to our entire hotel staff."
— **Vijay Kumar, Bheema's Restaurant**

"Our café is renowned for its authentic South Indian Foods, and this award further strengthens our reputation. This is a great honour for us."
— **Prakash G., The Nachiyar Café**

"It is a privilege to receive this rare honour from Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror. For meat lovers, our hotel is a top choice, and this award has further motivated us to enhance our services."
— **K A Amarnath & H K Nandeesh Gowdru, Gowdru Military Hotel, Indiranagar & Banaswadi**

"City food lovers constantly seek fresh and delicious seafood. Our restaurant is known for its authentic flavours, and this recognition makes us even more proud."
— **Ajit Shetty, Anupam's Coast to Coast**

"Thanco's Natural Ice Creams is known for making ice creams without any chemicals or preservatives, and that's what makes us unique. Customers love our flavours, and this award has further strengthened our commitment to quality."
— **Raghavendra K. Thane, Thanco's Natural Ice Cream**

"Serving authentic North Karnataka cuisine is our specialty. Our hotel attracts not just people from North Karnataka but also food lovers from various regions. Our goal is to introduce Bengaluru to the rich culinary traditions of North Karnataka."
— **Kavitha Lingayya Kadadevaramath, Nalapaka Hotel, Rajajinagar**

"For many meat lovers, biryani is a favourite. Our Nati-style biryani, paired with unique gravies, attracts customers, making Asare Inn a popular choice. It is an absolute delight to receive this award."
— **Pradeep Heggodu, Hotel Asare Inn**

"Despite the presence of numerous spice brands in the market, once customers experience Wemica's flavours, they never look elsewhere. Quality and taste have brought us this award, and we accept it with immense pride."
— **T. Harish Ganapathy, Wemica Masala & Pickle**

"We are honoured to receive this prestigious award from Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror. Biryani is our identity, and this recognition in the 'Best Biryani Restaurant' category fills us with immense pride."
— **B.A.R. Mohamed Ali, Narmada Chain of Restaurants**

"Our pub offers premium services at affordable prices, attracting many customers. This award from Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror has further elevated our brand's stature."
— **K.R. Sachidananda & Naveen K., Ginza Pub**

"If you're looking for authentic Bengali cuisine in Bengaluru, our restaurant is a must-visit. Not just Bengalis, but people from different states and locals also love our food. Winning the 'Best Bengali Restaurant' award is a huge honour for us."
— **Subhankar Dhar, Esplanade**

"Almost everyone in the city has dined at our restaurants. We cater both veg & non veg food lovers. Our customer experience is our business move. This award Popular Biryani Casual Dining has further motivated our business."
— **Partners, Meghana Foods**

"We value our customers' time, ensuring their favourite dishes reach their table within minutes. With a wide variety of South Indian delicacies, we aim to create a lasting impression. This prestigious award from VK and BM encourages us to serve even better."
— **Omkar Samarth S., Prachin Café**

"Located in the heart of the city, our hotel is the perfect spot for friends, families, and colleagues to gather over a meal. Offering a variety of cuisines, this award has further elevated our brand."
— **Rahul Uppal, Hyatt Centric MG Road, Bengaluru**

"Bengaluru is home to a large number of Keralites, and for those searching for authentic Kerala cuisine, our restaurant is the ultimate destination. We take pride in the trust our customers place in us. Thank you, Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror, for this recognition."
— **Karun Chandy, Yumm Keralam**

"Our coastal restaurant specialises in Mangalorean-style seafood, along with a variety of vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes. Offering quality food at budget-friendly prices, this award has strengthened our brand's identity."
— **P. Prabhat Rai, Parika Coastal Village**

"At Macaw and Stories Brewery, we aim to elevate the F&B industry by delivering exceptional service and quality, creating memorable dining stories. Our vision is to set new standards in the industry while ensuring long-term customer satisfaction. It's a pleasure to have received these awards."
— **Nerall S. Bakhai, Stories Brewery and Kitchen & Macaw By Stories**

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Super-speciality docs may stay on the job

Govt considering raising retirement age for super-speciality doctors

The Karnataka Government is actively considering increasing the retirement age of doctors serving in super-specialty hospitals under the medical education department from the current 60 years. During an interaction with doctors at Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research on Thursday, Medical Education and Skill Development Minister Dr. Sharan Prakash Patil assured medical professionals that the government is keen on extending the retirement age to retain experienced doctors in super-speciality hospitals.

IN FOCUS

The move comes in response to concerns raised by senior doctors at Jayadeva, who pointed out that after spending nearly 35 years in medical education and training, they only get to serve around 20-25 years before retiring at 60. "We have been deliberating on this issue for some time. To ensure better healthcare services and make the most of our experienced doctors, I will soon discuss the matter with chief minister Siddaramaiah and propose raising the retirement age for doctors in super-speciality hospitals," Dr. Patil said.

Doctors said they spend nearly 35 years in training and serve just 25

Insurance and infra boost

In addition to the proposed retirement age extension, Dr. Patil announced a significant benefit for doctors working in the medical education department—an insurance facility. Currently, these doctors are not covered under any government insurance scheme, but the state is planning to implement Jeevan Sanjeevani, a scheme already available under the health and family welfare department.

Robotic surgery

To further strengthen medical infrastructure, the minister declared that the government would allocate additional funds to Jayadeva hospital to introduce robotic surgery facilities. "To stay ahead in medical innovation and technology, we are committed to equipping Jayadeva with the latest machines and infrastructure. If Jayadeva cannot have the best, no other hospital in India can," he asserted. – BMB

AROUNDTHEWORLD

In poor spirits

President Donald Trump on Thursday threatened a 200% tariff on European wine, Champagne and spirits if the European Union goes forward with a planned tariff on American whiskey.
The European tariff that was unveiled in response to steel and aluminum tariffs by the U.S. administration, is expected to go into effect on April 1, just ahead of separate reciprocal tariffs that Trump plans to place on the EU.
But Trump, in a morning social media post, vowed a new escalation in his trade war if the EU goes forward with the planned 50% tariff on American whiskey.
"If this Tariff is not removed immediately, the U.S. will shortly place a 200% Tariff..." Trump wrote. AP

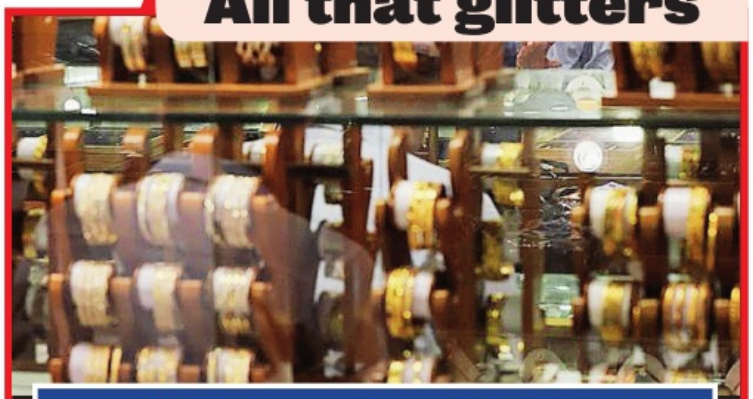
Falcon 9 rocket stalled

SpaceX has postponed the launch of its Falcon 9 rocket, which was scheduled to carry a crew of four astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS) and return the "stranded" NASA astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore.
The launch, originally planned for Thursday from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, was scrubbed less than an hour before liftoff due to a hydraulic system issue with a ground support clamp arm on the rocket.
NASA and SpaceX confirmed the delay of the Crew-10 mission, which was intended to replace Williams and Wilmore aboard the ISS. The postponement was caused by a technical problem with one of the arms. IANS

Torso of Buddha statue found

Archaeologists in Cambodia are celebrating an unexpected find at the country's centuries-old Angkor temple complex: the torso of a statue of Buddha that matches a head found nearly a century ago at the same site.
The torso, believed to be from the 12th or 13th century, was discovered during a dig by a team of Cambodian and Indian experts last month at Angkor's Ta Prohm temple. It was found along with 29 fragments that appeared to be part of the same statue, archaeologist Neth Simon said this week. It stands at 1.16 mt tall and is in the Bayon art style. "It was a big surprise when we unearthed this sculpture because all we'd found so far were small pieces," Neth Simon told The AP. AP

All that glitters



Spike

24-carat gold April futures rose by 0.21 per cent to touch: **Rs 86,875** per **10** grams

International ripples

The surge in gold prices is mainly driven by global instability. Uncertainty surrounding US President Donald Trump's tariff policies has led investors to turn to gold as a safe-haven asset.

International gold prices have climbed to: **$2,945** per ounce on **March 13**

Price in India

Spot price of **24-carat** gold in India: **Rs 86,670** per **10** grams

22-carat gold: **Rs 84,590** per **10** grams

20-carat, **18-carat**, and **14-carat** gold: **Rs 77,140, Rs 70,200,** and **Rs 55,900** per **10** grams

Bullish sentiments

Strong inflows into gold exchange-traded funds (ETFs) are also driving bullish sentiment in the market.

– IANS

SPORTS ROUND-UP

Lakshya through, Malavika out

India's Lakshya Sen stunned world no. 2 Jonatan Christie of Indonesia in straight games in a superlative display to enter the men's singles quarterfinals of the All England Championships here on Thursday.
Lakshya just took 36 minutes to beat Christie 21-13 21-10 in a one-sided contest.
The win reduced Lakshay's head-to-head record against Christie to 3-4.
This was the first time Lakshya played Christie, seeded third in this event, after the Paris Olympics.
India's women's singles campaign ended with Malvika Bansod losing in straight games against two-time world champion Akane Yamaguchi of Japan in the pre-quarterfinals. The world no. 3 Yamaguchi hardly broke a sweat to get the better of world no.28 Malvika 21-16 21-13 in a contest that lasted just 33 minutes. Yamaguchi has now extended her head-to-head record against Malvika to 4-0.
Malvika repeatedly hitting wide, long, and into the net to fall behind early. PTI

Cocaine case: Stuart MacGill guilty

Ex-International cricketer Stuart MacGill has been found guilty of taking part in the supply of cocaine in Sydney. The 54-year-old MacGill, a leg-spin bowler who played 44 test matches for Australia and took 208 wickets, was cleared by a jury of knowingly taking part in the supply of a large commercial quantity of a prohibited drug but found guilty of of participating in the supply of a prohibited drug. The charge related to an April 2021 introduction he made between a cocaine dealer and a person. A jury in the New South Wales District Court on Thursday heard that while MacGill's involvement was limited to the introduction, the dealer also took part in two other supplies. MacGill, who pleaded not guilty, is likely to return to court in May to be sentenced. AP

Brook gets IPL ban for 2 years

England batter Harry Brook has been banned from the Indian Premier League for two seasons following his last minute pullout from the 2025 edition.
Earlier this week, Brook had made himself unavailable for the second straight season and apologised "unreservedly" to his franchise Delhi Capitals and their supporters.
"There was a rule in place and that has been implemented. The ban covers the 2025 and 2026 edition," a BCCI official told PTI.
Any foreign player who misses the IPL after getting picked at the auction faces a two-year ban from the IPL unless he is injured.
"Any [overseas] player who registers for [an] auction and, after getting picked at the auction, makes himself unavailable before the start of the season will get banned from participating in the IPL/IPL auction for two seasons," as per the BCCI document shared with teams last year. PTI

HEALTH TIP: Poor sleep is associated with a higher risk of being overweight and obesity, which can lead to hypertensive responses

Pecans are a good source of calcium, magnesium, and potassium, which help lower the blood pressure

BangaloreMirror | 11
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All you wanted to know about cats but were afraid to ask

Do cats have 'friends', or do they always vie for territory? Animal experts weigh in

Domestic cats have been living alongside humans for an estimated 10,000 years, first as rodent control and then as the couch-warmers we know and love. A far cry from the lone predator lifestyle of their ancestors, today millions of cats worldwide live within human families. More than 30% of households in the United States and Australia own a cat.

We highly value the relationships we share with these furry companions, frequently considering them friends, family members or even "children".

And this sentiment may be shared, with cats demonstrating affection through seeking out our company, physical contact and engaging in play. Like a secret language between friends, there is even evidence to suggest cats have developed specific vocalisations to communicate with their owners.

Despite this, cats are typically seen as aloof and elusive. But how true is this? Do cats form friendships beyond us?

A complex recipe

Firstly, what does a cat friendship look like? Behaviours that may indicate friendship between two cats include social grooming, such as licking each other's fur, head rubbing, spending time together and playing together.

In contrast, behaviours such as charging, fighting or chasing may indicate a disagreement is brewing or already underway.

Cats also have very few "conflict defusing" signals in their behavioural repertoire, choosing to run away or avoid each other rather than attempt reconciliation during conflict.

Such disharmony can be stressful for the cats. Many owners end up wondering how to maximise the chances of fostering a positive relationship between their cat and other animals – or if they should get them a "friend" at all.

The recipe for successful feline friendships is a little complex. Research on cat dynamics in unowned, free-ranging cats has found close relationships are more likely to form – and last – if they are:

- both female
- grow up together
- are closely related and
- live in close proximity to one another.

Indoor-only cats can also form strong friendships with other cats in the household. Similar to unowned free-ranging cats, cats who have been introduced to one another at a young age, who are related, and who have lived together for a long-time, are more likely to be close friends.

However, among de-sexed cats, male pairs show closer bonds than male-female pairs. Female pairs are the least likely to be friends.

Their first introduction is also the most predictive factor for positive long-term relationships.

What about outdoor friends?

We know less about the social lives of pet cats that are allowed to roam outside, but the default behaviour for most cats is one of competitiveness and territorialism.

That said, cats will typically try to avoid confrontations with others.

While some research has found interactions between roaming cats are usually calm, they can and do sometimes result in fights – particularly if food is around or they venture into an unfamiliar unowned cats' territory.

To complicate things further, two cats are more likely to fight within a household if they are allowed outside – likely due to bringing in unfamiliar scents.

We also can't forget the problematic relationship cats can have with native fauna, sometimes decimating local wildlife populations. In many places, especially in parts of Australia, cats are not allowed outdoors for this reason.

There are also dangers to their own health and safety if allowed to roam, such as misadventure, risks from road traffic or even disgruntled neighbours.

Cats and dogs ... in harmony?

While research has mainly explored cats' friendship with each other, cats can also have positive relationships with other species. For example, while cats and dogs are commonly depicted as mortal enemies, they can live harmoniously, often sleeping and playing together.

However, once again the importance of early exposure and slow introductions in developing this relationship cannot be overstated.

Interestingly, it also appears that indoor cats are friendlier towards their canine companions than cats allowed outdoors. This is possibly because outdoor cats may be exposed to multiple dogs, many of which aren't happy to see them.

Who's your cat's closest friend?

So, should your pet cat have a friend? As you may have guessed by now, the answer to cat friendships is complicated.

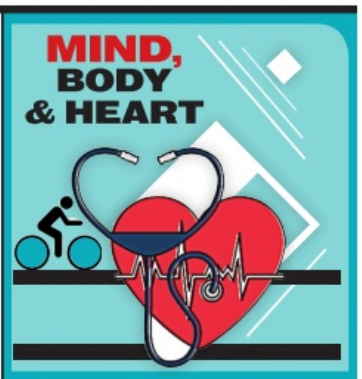
If you do plan to introduce your cat to a new companion, here are some suggestions to follow. Firstly, cat introductions should be slow and supervised to increase the chance of a positive first meeting.

Your house should also have plenty of safe spaces, toys and puzzle feeders, scratching posts, and separate food and litter areas in a quiet spot. Providing these resources will help prevent resource guarding (where cats stop other cats from accessing things they need or like) and reduce conflict between the animals.

At the end of the day, while cats can form friendships with other animals, they aren't crucial to their health and happiness.

Your cat's closest relationship is the one it has with you. Ensuring they have lots of opportunities to bask in your attention and engage in play is likely enough for even the most social of felines. After all, they have their "aloof and elusive" reputations to uphold.

(By Deanna Tepper, Jessica Dawson and Joanna Shnookal, La Trobe University, The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Care for oily skin

How to care for oily skin during summer

Opt for a gel-based or oil-free moisturizer: This hydrates without clogging pores. Keeping your skin balanced prevents it from overproducing oil.

Incorporate Salicylic Acid: It is your go-to for controlling oil and breakouts. It helps unclog pores, reduce shine, and keep your skin clear all season long.

Apply Mattifying powders or Blotting papers: These things are meant for a quick touch-up that keeps your skin fresh and shine-free throughout the day!

Choose Oil-Free Sunscreen: Never skip sunscreen, even if you have oily skin! Gel-based or water-based SPF formulas protect your skin without making it greasy.

Avoid Heavy Makeup: Thick, creamy foundations can clog pores and worsen oiliness. Opt for lightweight, non-comedogenic makeup to let your skin breathe!

Frequently asked questions

What is the best skincare routine for summer?

A simple routine with a gentle cleanser, lightweight moisturiser, sunscreen, and regular hydration keeps your skin healthy in summer.

Which skincare routine is best for oily skin?

A routine that includes oil-free products, gentle cleansing, lightweight hydration, and SPF helps control excess oil and breakouts.

What skin products to avoid in summer?

Avoid heavy creams, alcohol-based toners, and thick oils as they can clog pores and make your skin greasy.

Is vitamin C good for oily skin in summer?

Yes, vitamin C helps brighten skin, control oil, and protect against sun damage, making it great for summer.

Does oily skin need moisturiser in summer?

Yes, skipping moisturiser can lead to more oil production so, opt for a lightweight, gel-based one. —Femina

real estate

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, CHIDAMBARAM KUDLI SESHADRI R/o #630, 16th cross, 29th Main, 6th phase, JP Nagar, Bangalore – 560078 have changed my name to SESHADRI KUDLI CHIDAMBARAM FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATED 10TH March 2025 sworn before XXIX Addl Chief Judicial Magistrate Bengaluru City.

WE, Manoj Kumar Ganesan & Sivapriya Chandrasekaran, R/o Site no. 78, Astro Green Villas, Halanayakanahalli, Bengaluru – 560035, have changed our daughter's name from SANA MANOJ to MEDHA MANOJ, vide affidavit dated 12.03.2025, sworn before notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, B'lore.

WE, Manoj Kumar Ganesan & Sivapriya Chandrasekaran, R/o Site no. 78, Astro Green Villas, Halanayakanahalli, Bengaluru – 560035, have changed our daughter's name from SARA MANOJ to VIDITA MANOJ, vide affidavit dated 12.03.2025, sworn before notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, B'lore.

I Dr. Laxmi Nandkumar Godhwani W/O, Vishal Dharamdasani R/o M101, Purva Venezia, Sandeep Unnikrishnan Road, Yelhanka New Town, Bengaluru, 560064, Karnataka, India. have changed my name to Dr. Prachi Vishal Dharamdasani

I, Renald Daniel Dayanand R/o No.163, 4th main, 4th cross, Maruthinagar, Mahalakshmi - puram lyt, Bengaluru 560086 have changed my name to Ronald Daniel Dayanand Affidavit Dt.12/03/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Bhaskar Dutt Sharma R/a No.B/002, Alpine Vistula Apt, Seegehalli, Hoskote Main Road, Whitefield, Kannamangala, Blor-560067. Have changed to Bhasker Dutt Sharma. Afft Dt: 12.03.2025. Sworn Before Notary: Devaraju.E.

I, Bhushan Dhade R/o 1143, Sobha palm court, Kogilu main road, Maruthinagar, Yelahanka, Bengaluru 560064 have changed my name to Bhushan Vishwanath Dhade Affidavit Dt.13/03/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Jyothi Mary M C W/O, Nithyananda R/o W/o Nithyananda, No 37, 2nd Cross, A K Colony, S G Palya, Drc Post Bangalore-560029 have changed my name to Jyothi Mary for all purposes

I, Kiran Kumar G S/o Ganesh S G R/o No.131, 2nd D cross, OMBR Lyt, Banaswadi, Bengaluru 560043 have changed my name to Kiran Kumar Ganesh Affidavit Dt.13/03/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I,KAVYA satish babu. w/o. satish babu krishnappa. R/o #9/7, Yamunabai Road, Madhva Nagar, Bengaluru-560001, have changed my name to kavya chandrashekar , for all purposes

I, Nirmala Mahaveer W/o Mahaveer Bhawarlal Chand R/o No.24/333-A, 5th A main, Remco Lyt, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru 560040 have changed my name to Nirmala, declared all purpose

I REKHA L W/o Abhishek Kavdiya R/o No 450A 4th B Crs 7th Main Hampinagar Bangalore 560104 have changed my name to REKHA for all Purposes

I Prajwal S/o Prakash A R R/o #07,1st Main,1st Cross, Khb Colony,Gandhi Nagar,Yela - hanka Old Town, Bangalore 560064 have changed my name to Prajwal P for all purposes.

I, Shabana Samiulla Sharief W/o Syed Rizwan Ahmed R/o 2044 Flat No-SF2 HIG 1st B Main Rd Yelanka New Town B'lore-560064 have changed my name to Shabana Sharief

I,RAKSHITHA Rajendra Ghadge R/o 7 Hachangappa Lane R T Street Chickpet B'lore 560053 have changed my Name to Rakshitha Omkar Kadam

LOST & FOUND

DOCUMENT LOST

I **Pravinkumar J Ashar**, owner of Plot No. 386, situated at Canterbury Castles, Melekote Cross, Oodhanahalli Village, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Declare that I have lost my Original Sale Deed **(Document bearing No. 101/2000-01 dated 15th April 2000)**, near Hennur Main Road, Lingarajpuram, regarding this complaint (Lost Report No.1518017/2025) has been lodged on **12-03-2025. So, if anybody finds the aforesaid Original Sale Deed Please Contact to this Ph. No.9819872572**

THIS is to bring to your kind notice that, Rameshwarlal, s/o Manglaram Address: No.1, Radha Reddy Layout, Sarjapura Road, Bengaluru, our following registered land deeds are missing from 06/02/2025. 1. Deed of release dated 10/06/2015, document number 3771/2015-2016. 2. Rectification of release deed dated 10/05/2019, document number BNG(U) VRT 833/2019-2020. 3. Gift deed dated 18/09/2019, document number BNG (U) VRT 3626-2019-2020. If found kindly return to the above address.

DOCUMENT LOST

I **Chandrasinh V Ashar**, owner of Plot No. 374, situated at Canterbury Castles, Melekote Cross, Oodhanahalli Village, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Declare that I have lost my Original Sale Deed **(Document bearing No. 105/2000-01 dated 15th April 2000,** near Hennur Main Road, Lingarajpuram, regarding this complaint (Lost Report No.1517989/2025) has been lodged on **12-03-2025. So, if anybody finds the aforesaid Original Sale Deed Please Contact to this Ph. No.9819872572**

DOCUMENT LOST

I **Bharatkumar J Ashar**, owner of Plot No. 387, situated at Canterbury Castles, Melekote Cross, Oodhanahalli Village, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Declare that I have lost my Original Sale Deed **(Document bearing No. 102/2000-01 dated 15th April 2000)**, near Hennur Main Road, Lingarajpuram, regarding this complaint (Lost Report No.1518004/2025) has been lodged on **12-03-2025. So, if anybody finds the aforesaid Original Sale Deed Please Contact to this Ph. No.9819872572**

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APRIL:6,13,20,27,29 MAY:4,11,18,25,27
Gongtok Darjeeling Miric- MAR : 24 APRIL : 7,14,21,28
MAY : 5,12,19,26 JUNE :2,9,16,23 JULY : 7,21,28
Bhuthan Tour- MAR : 15,22 APRIL : 1,7,12,19,26
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 # Well, that's settled
Bollywood star Aamir Khan on Thursday confirmed his relationship with Gauri Spratt, revealing that they have been together for over a year

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Something to crow about

The film Raven joins the list of movies that feature animals playing significant roles. As the name explains, a raven features as the main character in this film.

It is a belief that seeing a crow is inauspicious but director Ved has put the bird in a pivotal role. The movie is bankrolled by Prabik Mogaveer and Vishwanath GP under the Athma Cinemas and Vishwa Productions banner. Its trailer was unveiled recently. "Raven is my second movie as a director. People think that they have to take a bath if a crow touches them. Some people are of the opinion that they have to change vehicles if crows sits on it. Many do not know crows' good habits. If a crow finds food, it will call other crows. No other bird does this," said Ved.

He said the movie has turned out well and the computer graphics add value to the movie. "The movie is in the final stages," he said.

The movie features Dilip Pai, Swapna Shettigar, Shreya Aradhya, Suchendra Prasad, Leela Mohan, and Dinesh Mangaluru. Prabik Mogaveer, one of the producers, said he agreed to bankroll the movie because of its content and the director's style of narrating the story. "I am happy with how it has turned out. We are planning to release it next month," he said.

Pai said he was very happy to be part of this team. He said he was returning to acting after a while.

Song unveiled

IPS Officer Ravi D Channannavar, Sandalwood actor Rishi and SP Dayanand of DS Max unveiled the movie Taane at a function held at MMB Legacy on Wednesday. The guests appreciated the quality of the song – Baalinalli Baravaseya Belaku – and wished good luck to the cast and crew. The song is written by Maja Talkies fame Ramo and it was sung by child singers Gnana, Anushka Janya, Adarsha and Maulya Achintya. Manasa Holla scored music.

The movie Taane has the tagline – C/o Srirampura. The movie is bankrolled by Gyathri M under the PCD 2 Film Factory banner.

Thanking the guests, director S Bhagat Raj said the post-productions works of the movie were completed and the arrangements are being made to release shortly.

"Praveen, known as a stunt master, debuts as a hero in Sandalwood with

this movie. Harinakshi from Mysore is paired opposite Praveen. The movie revolves around the hero who fights for justice," the director said.

Thanking the producer and director for giving him a chance to play the lead, Praveen said that he has been associated with Sandalwood since 2007. "I have also been associated with theater. Many of my friends have already earned fame in Sandalwood. I play Kali in the movie which is about Srirampura. I am familiar with Srirampura as I live in the neighbourhood, Gayathrinagar."

WORK IN PROGRESS

Alia Bhatt talks about how she manages to handle her emotions

Alia Bhatt recently opened up about her ongoing journey with anxiety, revealing that she attends therapy sessions weekly to manage her mental health.

Speaking during an intimate pre-birthday celebration with the media, where she was joined by her husband Ranbir Kapoor, Alia admitted that handling emotions is "a daily work in progress".

The actor, who previously discussed her struggles with anxiety and ADHD on Jay Shetty's podcast, emphasised the importance of self-awareness.

She said she finds herself in various moments where her emotions are getting the better of her and despite not being deeply into meditation, Alia explained that simply recognizing her emotional patterns helps her navigate difficult situations.

Alia also revealed that reading to her daughter, Raha, offers unexpected comfort. She mentioned a children's book titled The Book of Emotions, which she often reads to her. "When I read that book to her, it is actually like I am reading to myself," Alia said, highlighting how the simple lessons about feelings serve as reminders for her as well.

The actor believes that acknowledging emotions, combined with regular therapy and open conversations, plays a crucial role in maintaining mental well-being. "Support definitely helps, and talking it out helps," she added. On the work front, Alia Bhatt will next be seen in 'Love and War,' directed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali, where she stars alongside Ranbir Kapoor and Vicky Kaushal. Her previous outing 'Jigra' failed to impress the audiences and turned out to be an average hit at the box office.

— ETimes

MILLA JOVOVICH
DAVE BAUTISTA
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RESIDENT EVIL
AUTHOR OF A GAME OF THRONES
IN THE LOST LANDS
IN CINEMAS NOW
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NEXUS MALL Koramangala, 3:05 p.m., 10:30 p.m.
ORION MALL Dr. Rajkumar Road, 12:05 p.m.
PHOENIX MARKETCITY Whitefield Road, 11:20 a.m., 7:15 p.m.
VEGA CITY Bannerghatta Road, 12:20 p.m., 8:15 p.m.
DIRECTORS CUT FORUM REX WALK Ashok Nagar, 4:15 p.m.
GARUDA MALL Magrath Road, 8:20 p.m.
MEGAPLEX MALL OF ASIA Bellary Road, 11:50 a.m., 7:30 p.m.
cinépolis
NEXUS SHANTINIKETAN Whitefield Road, 12:10 p.m., 10:20 p.m.
LULU MALL Rajajinagar, 2:00 p.m.
Check online for updated showtimes as they may vary.

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14th to 23rd March 2025
Time : 10.30 am - 8.30 pm

Family first

Actress Carrie-Anne Moss revealed that she strategically declined major movie offers after the blockbuster Matrix trilogy to become a mother and prioritise her family, reported Variety.

Moss starred as Trinity opposite Keanu Reeves in the Wachowskis' 1999 action classic and its two sequels, 'The Matrix Reloaded' and 'The Matrix Revolutions', both released in 2003.

Moss recently gave an interview and said that she carries no regret after pulling back from her acting career amid the success of The Matrix franchise.

— ANI

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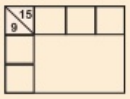
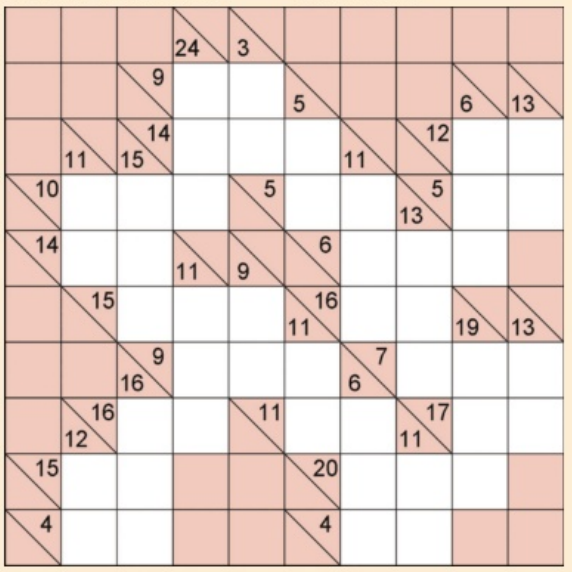
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

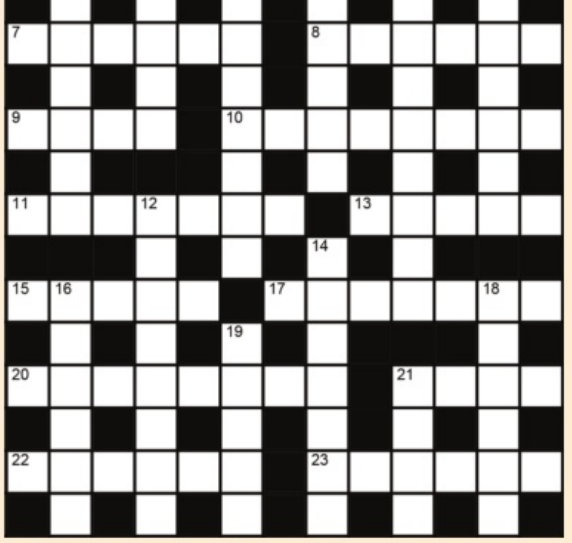


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Title for a Spanish lady (6)
8 Wading bird (6)
9 By ___ of : by force or means of? (4)
10 A shrew (8)
11 Hiring out for a long period (7)
13 Abnormally large (5)
15 2022 FIFA World Cup host (5)
17 Winked, flashed or twinkled (7)
20 Where in Karnataka Shiravati River drops 253 meters (3,5)
21 Mark Zuckerberg's company (4)
22 Advances or makes progress? (4,2)
23 Wandering (6)

DOWN

1 Come up with (6)
2 A young horse (4)
3 Taking a dip? (7)
4 Milk supplier (5)
5 Of a South American republic (8)
6 Get back (6)
12 Five-armed sea animal (8)
14 Spectacles (7)
16 Makes good (6)
18 To a large ___ : to a very great degree? (6)
19 Threw or hurled? (5)
21 Red planet (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: O EQUALS G

RGNV GH KVWP GCJVWVHJGCO... GC JDV VCE, HALV AN PAXW OWVUJVHJ ZUGCH, QVTALV PAXW OWVUJVHJ HJWVCOJDH.

Linemaro

Are you a model?

Mindchow

Do what you feel in your heart to be right. You'll be criticised anyway

Joke of the day

Why was the math book sad?
Because it had too many problems!

Loop

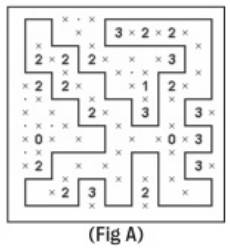
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

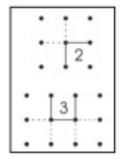
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

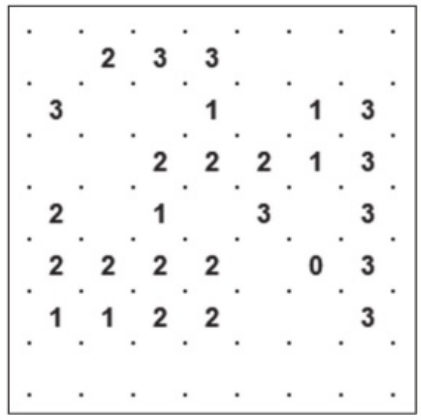
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



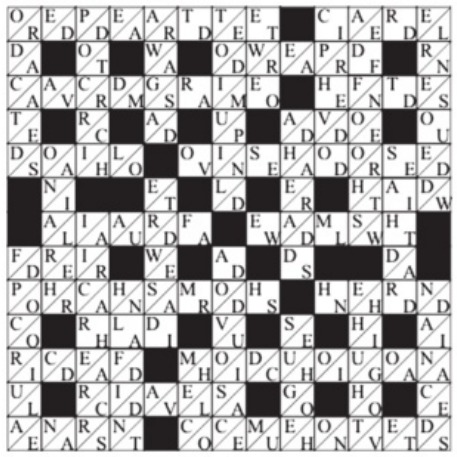
(Fig A)



(Fig B)
Not Allowed



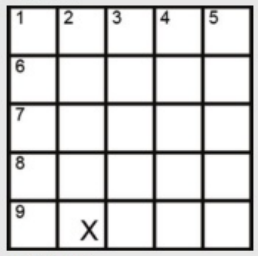
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

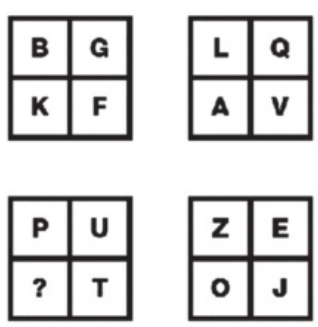
1 Molts; 6 Or hum;
7 A race; 8 Dug me;
9 Maxes

DOWN

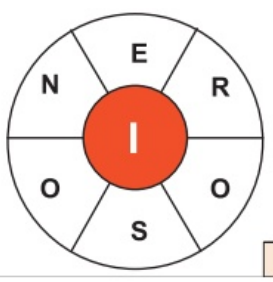
1 Ashed; 2 Rumex;
3 O Mage; 4 U Colm;
5 Smart

Mensapuzzle

Which letter replaces the question mark and completes the sequence?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; **11** Good; **13** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

3			7					
	9		8				5	
5	1			4			6	
7			3			1	8	
	8	9				5	2	
	4	3			8			9
	3			6			1	2
	2				7		3	
					5			6

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 14
1 2 3 8

Medium = 41
1 4 5 9

Hard = 18
1 3 3 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

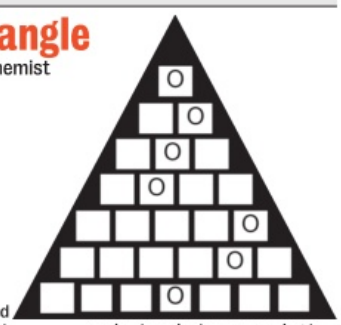
Differences: 1. Tie is different. 2. Arm is longer. 3. Purse is smaller. 4. Cabinet is not as wide. 5. Collar is different. 6. Fingers are showing.

Riddler

What does the following rebus represent?
LAUG SIDE HTER

Alpha triangle

1 Oxygen for the chemist
2 Post Off.
3 Where antes go
4 Station
5 Rigatoni sauce
6 Autocrat
7 Evicts an alien

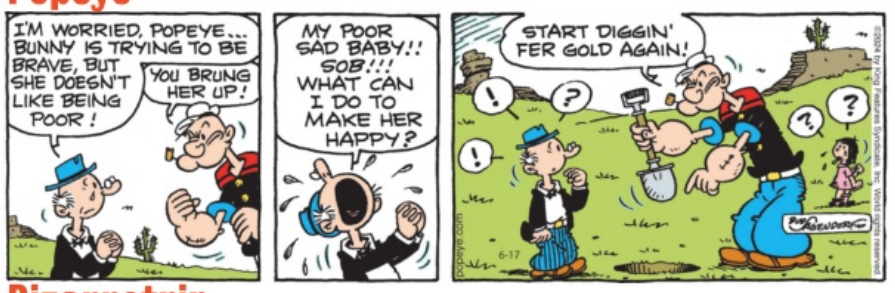


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

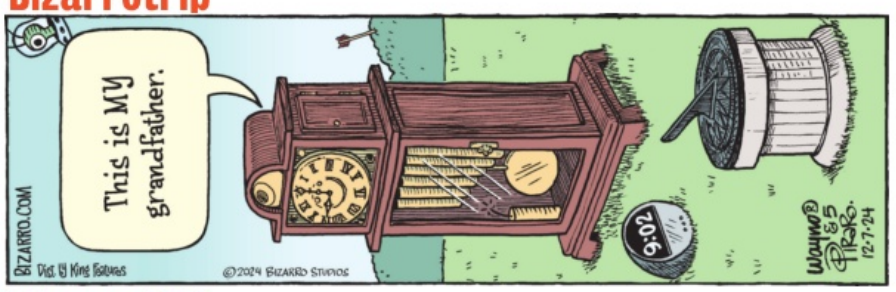
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


I'M WORRIED, POPEYE... BUNNY IS TRYING TO BE BRAVE, BUT SHE DOESN'T LIKE BEING POOR!
YOU BRUNG HER UP!
MY POOR SAD BABY!! SOB!!! WHAT CAN I DO TO MAKE HER HAPPY?
START DIGGIN' FER GOLD AGAIN!
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

WHEN WE GOT BACK HOME, WE RENAMED HER RIPLEY. THERESA IS NOT A GOOD DOG NAME.
OH, DEAN, YOU'RE SO SENSITIVE.
SNIFF SNIFF
IT WAS A REALLY HEART-WARMING STORY! I'M HUMAN!
@DOANGS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

LET'S TAKE IT FROM THE TOP AND SEE WHERE WE ARE!
OKAY... IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO BE PULLING SOME ALL-NIGHTERS!
tombatiuk.com/books
BATIUK & DAVIS
12-7

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Disputes with siblings may finally be resolved, strengthening your relationship. Your energy levels will be high, helping you complete difficult projects with ease. A work-related trip may expand your professional network. Helping a needy person will enhance your prestige. You might meet an influential person who could support your career in the near future.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
You will be busy with family matters today and enjoy quality time with loved ones. New sources of income may boost your financial stability. You will have better control over unnecessary expenses while making valuable purchases that enhance your social status. You may also focus on your children's academics.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You will feel energetic and productive, completing tasks within deadlines. Your positivity will inspire and encourage those feeling low. Your prestige will rise, and you will achieve balance between professional and personal life. Those involved in import/export, trading, or strategy analysis will see good results.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
You may feel dissatisfied and experience laziness, slowing down your work progress. Lovebirds should avoid making important decisions regarding marriage. Job seekers may face disappointment in interviews. Be mindful of not wasting time on unproductive tasks.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Your focus may waver, leading to impulsive decisions based on unrealistic expectations. High aspirations may leave you feeling frustrated. Avoid risky adventures and fast driving. However, by the afternoon, your financial situation may improve, and you could secure new clients that boost future business growth.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Self-reflection will help you overcome internal weaknesses, boosting your confidence. You will resist unhealthy habits or addictions. Singles may find a suitable match, and couples will gain clarity in their relationships. Opportunities for overseas travel may arise. Students can expect good news regarding academics.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
You will feel more in control of situations today. Travel plans, especially overseas, may be on your mind. Your professional network could provide support at work. Domestic harmony will improve. Your creativity will be high, and you may invest in art or decorative items for your home or office. Enjoying a movie or entertainment with loved ones is likely.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
At the start of the week, you may see financial gains and successfully balance earnings and expenses, improving your bank balance. You will perform well at work and may be assigned new responsibilities by your boss. Any pending payments may be recovered. You will have control over rivals and hidden enemies. Your health will improve.

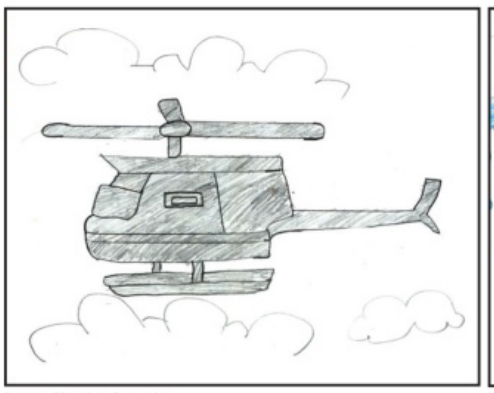
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You may plan home renovations or buy decorative items to enhance your living space. Harmony in your marital life will improve. Disputes with friends, colleagues, or business partners may be resolved. Positive news related to legal matters may come your way.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Your energy levels will be high, and any old health issues may be resolved. Expect good news from a close relative. Your performance at work will improve, and your subordinates will support you on challenging projects. Trust in your colleagues will strengthen, enhancing your professional reputation. Favorable outcomes in legal matters are also possible.

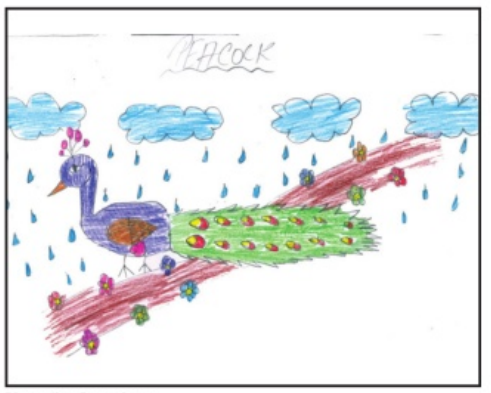
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Challenges may make life feel difficult today. Seeking advice from elders can help you navigate obstacles. Concerns about your children's education may trouble you. A short trip related to academics is possible. Investors should avoid speculation before making any financial decisions. Enrolling in a new course could enhance your skill set.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
This may not be a favorable day, as distractions could affect your focus and work routine. Project delays are possible. It's best to remain patient and adapt to the current situation. Avoid investing in fixed assets for now, and postpone plans related to home or office construction.

KIDZONE



Ramya Murthy, Bengaluru



Bhoomika, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
∜{(6+3²i / 2i) + 3²i}
= ∜(60+2i)
= ∜81 = 3

RIDDLER
Sidesplitting laughter!

QUOTE UNCODE
Life is very interesting... in the end, some of your greatest pains, become your greatest strengths.

BULL'S EYE
EROSION, iron, noise, rein, resin, rinse, rise, risen, rosin, senior, sine, sire, siren

FAST FIVE

S	M	O	L	T
H	U	M	O	R
A	R	E	C	A
D	E	G	U	M
E	X	A	M	S

STRIKE OUT

R	E	P	A	R	T	E	E	C	E	D	E			
E	A	S	T	C	E	M	E	N	T	E	D			
L	R	I	A	L	S	O	H	E						
I	C	E	D	M	I	C	H	I	G	A	N			
C	H	A	D	V	S	I	I							
O	R	C	H	A	R	D	S	N	E	R	D			
D	E	R	E	A	D	A								
L	A	U	R	A	W	A	L	S	H					
I	T	D	E	T	A	D								
S	O	H	O	O	N	E	H	O	R	S	E			
A	O	A	D	W	A	R	F	N						
C	A	R	D	G	A	M	E	E	F	T	S			
E	C	A	U	A	D	O	U							
S	E	N	O	R	A	V	O	C	E	T				
V	L	T	I	L	G									
D	I	N	T	H	A	R	I	D	A	N				
G	E	T	S	O	N	E	R	R	A	N	T			
N	I	S	U	I										
J	O	G	F	A	L	S	M	E	T	A				
T	R	F	A	X										
O	A	T	A	R	B	L	I	N	K	E	D			
T	G	A												
L	E	A	S	I	N	G	G	I	A	N	T			
S	I	Y	I											
H	A	R	R	I	D	A	N							
B	D	B	G	S	S	T								

QUICK

S	H	G	S	T										
G	E	T	S	O	N	E	R	R	A	N	T			
N	I	S	U	I										
J	O	G	F	A	L	S	M	E	T	A				
T	R	F	A	X										
O	A	T	A	R	B	L	I	N	K	E	D			
T	G	A												
L	E	A	S	I	N	G	G	I	A	N	T			
S	I	Y	I											
H	A	R	R	I	D	A	N							
B	D	B	G	S	S	T								

MENSA PUZZLE
Y. Work in rows, across the 4 squares as a whole. Start at the top left and move to the right, then down one row and to the left etc in a snakes and ladders pattern. Letters advance through the alphabet in steps of 5 letters at a time.

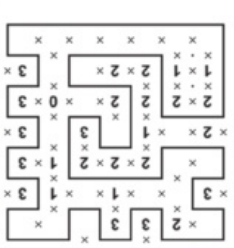
SUDOKU

3	6	2	7	5	1	4	9	8
4	9	7	8	2	6	3	5	1
5	1	8	9	4	3	2	6	7
7	5	6	3	9	2	1	8	4
1	8	9	6	7	4	5	2	3
2	4	3	5	1	8	6	7	9
8	3	5	4	6	9	7	1	2
6	2	4	1	8	7	9	3	5
9	7	1	2	3	5	8	4	6

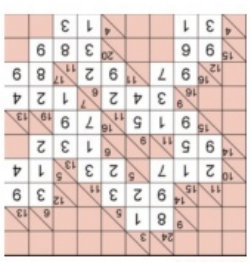
ALPHA TRIANGLE
0 , P0, P0t,
P0st, Pestо,
Despot,
Deports.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 + 3 + 1 + 8 = 14
Medium
9 x 5 x 1 − 4 = 41
Hard
3 + 3 / 1 x 3 = 18

LOOP



KAKURO



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